

"As long as neutrals keep silent, or speak apologetically, or take refuge in the futilities of the professional pacificists, there will be no cessation in these brutalities. But surely this last and crowning brutality, which amounts to the imposition of a cruel form of state-slavery on a helpless and unoffending conquered nation, must make our people realize that they peril their own souls, that they degrade their own manhood, if they do not bear emphatic testimony against the perpetration of such iniquity. I am glad to be one among the Americans who thus bear testimony."

To Mr. Charles W. Farnham, the organizer of a similar meeting in St. Paul, Minn., he wrote a letter on January 30, 1917, which contains a notable expression of his views on International peace movements:

"If the men of Lexington and Bunker Hill and Trenton were right, then the Belgians are right now; and when we tamely acquiesce in such infamies as have been committed in Belgium—of course still more when we tamely acquiesce in such infamies as have been committed against our own people in cases like that of the *Lmitama*—we show ourselves unworthy to be the heirs of the Americans who followed Washington and upheld the hands of Lincoln. Since the days of Pontius Pilate neutrality between right and wrong has been recognized by all high-minded men and women as itself immoral.

¹¹ What we need is not to promise action in the nebulous

future but to act now in the living present. Any
promise of
ours about entering into international peace
leagues or
guaranteeing the peace of the world or
protecting small na-
tionalities hereafter is worse than worthless, is
mischievous
and hypocritical, unless we make our words
good by action
in the ease that is uppermost in the present.
Until we can
and do guarantee peace in Mexico let us not
talk loudly
and make empty gestures about guaranteeing
the peace of
the world. Unless we are willing to run some
risk and make
some effort to right the wrongs of Belgium in
the present
let us refrain from indulging in insincere
declamation about